FACULTY SENATE

September 8th, 2009

Minutes

Room SU-214

Present: Tony Adams, Dennis Grammenos, Rodney Higginbotham, Jianfeng Jiang, Judith Kaplan-Weinger, Phyllis Le Dosquet, Shahrzad Mahootian, Eleni Makris, Sue Mungre, Selina Mushi, James Olson, Kris Over, Frank Perino, Allen Shub, Dario Villa

Absent: Sandra Beyda-Lorie, Denise Cloonan-Cortez, David Jordan, Janalyn Meehan

Ex-Officio: Provost Lawrence Frank

Chair Shub called the meeting to order at 1:45**.**

1) Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of April 14th (K. Over, 2nd D. Villa), and April 28th, 2009 (J. Olson, 2nd E. Makris), pending corrections was passed, new members T. Adams, D. Grammenos, Jianfeng Jiang, Phyllis Le Dosquet abstaining .

F. Perino wanted to know the results of the April 14th motion ("The Faculty Senate 1) write a letter from the Faculty Senate to the dean of the College of Education and the chair requesting that a written rationale be communicated to Prof. Adeodu, 2) revisit the existing policy to close all loopholes, and 3) consider the long term goal of hiring an ombudsman"). Chair Shub said he would write the letter now that the minutes have been approved.

2) Report from the Provost

The state support is status quo this year; the budget is the same as last year's. The fall 2009 enrollment numbers look great in all areas: freshmen, transfer students and graduate students (*hand-out: Fall 2009 Enrollment Snapshot*), with an overall increase of 5% as of Sept 3rd. We are still challenged with respect to retention but have improved in recruitment.

However the MAP funding has been cut by 50%, from eight million to four million, and students who applied after May 15th did not get any funding from MAP. All MAP funds have been used for fall term. Therefore in spring, the effects of the cut will show. Students have been informed and have been recommended to apply for Safford loans. Federally funded Pell grants are not affected. The Provost stated that since MAP students also receive Pell grants the university anticipates an increase in the numbers of part-time students and a decrease in the numbers of full time students. Furthermore, the University also anticipates that our stimulus dollars (4 million) will also be cut in FY 2010.

In the face of the potential of this 10% budget cut, the following decisions have been made by President Hahs:

- no base pay increases for A&P employees, instead a $1000 lump sum will be given for this year.
- partial hiring freeze of replacements as well as new positions, but will go ahead with already approved positions

The good news is that the university has received another Title V grant to work with the College of Lake County to support transfer students from CLC and NEIU degree completion at the University Center on CLC campus. We have done graduate programs in the past, and we have just launched a degree completion program for a BS in Psychology. The enrollment looks good at the moment; we expect out first graduate in December. We plan to open a transfer center that includes advisors, and a new position for a part-time coordinator in veterans' affairs.

3) Report from the Chair

Two tasks for this year's senate.

A) Gathering and creating a template for departmental by-laws remains unfinished business. We might try a different approach than last year when we found we had trouble collecting bylaws, perhaps asking the deans to assist the chairs. Chair Shub reminded the members that departmental bylaws are crucial to effective faculty governance.

B) We also need to improve the election process. Some of the councils and committees- for example the Faculty Council on Technology have a disproportionate number of members whose terms expire at once. Another task is implementing paperless voting. Nominations can be sent by email to the Faculty Senate Office, and the Voting Committee can look into voting using Survey Gold.

We have agreed to participate in a study of cross-curricular concepts used in higher education administration by Prof. E. Duff Wobbel which is a matter of filling out a survey that takes about 3-5 minutes. He will be sending materials to the Faculty Senate Office.

2) Elections

Chair Shub summarized the responsibilities and honors of Faculty Senate Chair.
J. Kaplan-Weinger volunteered to be chair. E. Makris volunteered to be vice-chair.
Motion that J. Kaplan-Weinger be chair and E. Makris be vice-chair (K. Over, 2nd S. Mushi) passed unanimously.

Motion that S. Mahootian be secretary in the fall and Tony Adams as secretary in the spring when S. .Mahootian is on sabbatical). (F. Perino, 2nd D. Villa) was passed unanimously.

After a brief description of its duties by A. Shub, J. Jiang, P. Le Dosquet and Frank Perino volunteered to be on the Steering Committee. A vote took place, and *P. Le Dosquet and F. Perino won the two seats on the committee.*

W. Makris, J. Villa, and J. Jiang volunteered for the Elections Committee.

D. Grammenos, S. Mahootian, S. Mushi, S. Mungre and F. Perino volunteered to make up the Academic Freedom Committee.

Membership for the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Administrative Evaluation was postponed.

S. Mahootian, R. Higginbotham, J. Kaplan-Weinger and E. Makris volunteered for the By-laws Committee.

D. Villa, R. Higginbotham, T. Adams P. Le Dosquet, and K. Over volunteered for the Dean of Students Judicial Affairs Committee.

S. Mushi, R. Higginbotham and J. Jiang volunteered as representatives on the Faculty Council on Technology.

It was generally agreed that consideration on forming a committee to look at the Grade Appeal Policy.

6) Adjournment: *motion (S. Mahootian, 2nd D. Villa) passed.*

Respectfully Submitted,
Shahrzad Mahootian
Secretary